'SERET EVENING NEWS

ner of South Temple and East Temple Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.

ace G. Whitney - Business Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES:
(In Advance).

Mail, per year.....$6.00
Carriers, per year.....9.00
-Weekly, per year.....2.00
rday News, per year.....2.00

ldress all business communications all remittances,
THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

rrespondence and other reading mat. for publication should be addressed he EDITOR.

stern Representatives—New York, shlin P. Alcorn, Flat Iron Building. ago—A. W. Wolf, Security Building.

ntered at the postoffice of Salt Lake as second class matter according Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

LT LAKE CITY, - JUNE 20, 1910.


## ROOSEVELT AT HOME.

oosevelt is home after one of the t remarkable trips abroad ever untaken by an American citizen. He been gone a year and three months, there is not a day of that time t has not been full of excitement stir.

lost of the time Roosevelt spent in ica, where Livingston and Stanley re lost to view for years entirely cut from communication with the rest the world. Roosevelt was never

hen he paid a visit to some of the ropean capitals. He was feted and hored as a king. He lectured in glish, French, German, and Dutch. fraternized with kings and emors. He eulogized peace and rewed armies. He stirred up the nas wherever he went. Altogether trip through Europe was a most que affair.

omparison has been made between foreign trip of Grant and that of osevelt. Also Grant dined with emors, Kings and Queens, but he was rly always silent, except when his nion was asked for. Grant, though oldier and general of fame, always s averse to military displays. Grant s presented to Marshal MacMahon, o was extremely cordial and greeted n as a comrade and fellow-soldier, d wanted to show him the army and he military shows. But here came nething which often perplexed the neral's hosts while he was in Europe, l that was his aversion to military plays. He never seemed to want to a review nor hear a drum beat, r visit any military pageant. That s Grant.

he impression retained by some of European papers, from the visit Roosevelt, is expressed by the Berer Tageblatt as follows:

Mr. Roosevelt himself is his best anager. First, he hunts adventures darkest Africa, then zigzags through rope with speeches in the English, rman, French, and Dutch languages, gether with receptions by kings, emrors, and presidents, and as a glorius climax will come his coronation th the Nobel prize. If that is not de most effective preparation for a rd term in the White House, there certainly nothing more to be done. is a lucky coincidence that the Reblican party finds itself in difficulis and in greater need of a popular n than ever."

Perhaps Roosevelt wants another m in the White House, and perhaps t. If he does he can probably get it, d his trip abroad will have no inence whatever, one way or the other. here was some talk of re-electing him fore his last term expired, because e people felt that the interests of e country were safe in his hands, and at conviction remains. Roosevelt is a gular character. But he is a great nerican, true as steel to the country d his friends, fearless as a lion, ady to fight for a square deal, and ways doing something. He is loved d admired, as well as hated and ared, and he would stand every ance in the world to get another term President were that his ambition.

## THE SIMPLE LIFE.

Gene Stratton Porter, in her work the "Birds of the Bible" makes clear me of the reasons why the simple e was part of the very nature of ings in all those years when Israel as the chosen people, the flower of ue civilization as shown in the best oples of that early epoch.

First she notes how David, in singing the house of God, felt that his work ould not be complete without putting these birds and other friendly little eatures that homed there:

Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,
nd the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, ven thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God."

Because so many swallows nested in ie temple, the whole species were almost held sacred, for any bird which uilt in a place of worship was supposed to be claiming the protection of ie Almighty. She believes that no one ould have dared to interfere with a est so placed. So inflexible was the le to protect birds building in temples nat the laws governing them there eld good elsewhere, to the extent that ey were welcomed near homes and garded as a blessing. In like manner e thinks that the swallows darting ack and forth to their young must ave been a part of the picture. . . . hey were a part of the home life of illages and walled towns, where they uilt their nests of clay interlaid with air and straw, and lined with feathers. hey brooded inside buildings where ople ate, slept and worked at looms. o all over those fort-like structures ith clay and stone walls, and roofs upported with heavy timbers, the wallows flocked. . . . This bird of ree wing and unbroken spirit has ircled the globe in its endless sailing. t is sweet of voice, beautiful of form nd motion, everywhere a blessing.

This close association with nature, nd the sympathy which both acquaintance and the stern teachings of the aw tended to produce in the case of hese lively and interesting forms, was he basis, Mrs. Porter argues, of that eeling of naturalness and at-homeess in the open air which characterzed the daily life of ancient Israel, as ell as of the inimitable passages of oetic imagery taken directly from nature by all the Hebrew writers. The ffect produced by their tastes and urroundings on the daily lives of the people is thus told in the author's own words:

"I like to think that in those days the brightly clad men and women, who were so near to nature and to God, took the time to observe and to love the birds as they studied the stars and phenomena of nature. I can not imagine the people who lived in Schechem, Gilgal, Hebron, Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Jerusalem rushing through life as we live it today. I like to picture them gleaning their fields, working their gardens, watching their flocks, living a full life, but not a hurried one. I dream of those linen-clad women in gay colors of blue, yellow, and purple, attending the welfare of their families, even as Abigail; but with time to teach their children the commandments of the laws; time to linger in the spicy, odorous air; time to stand before their caged doves and coo back at them as they treated them to handfuls of wheat. These were the men and women who inside the walls of Jerusalem turned at morning and evening toward the temple, and those outside faced the Holy City, and dropping on their knees, lifted their voices on the fragrant air and praised the Almighty."

What pictures of natural beauty and domestic peace such scenes suggest! How much could the people of today learn from such examples of the composed mind and steady life of enjoyment possessed by these typical followers of complete living. The haste and hurry, the foibles of society, the nonsense of rapid pleasure-seeking in cheap and tawdry artificial affairs of all kinds, so characteristic of our modern life, all represent a sort of failure the chief loss sustained amid our various modern gains. Fortunately this loss is not really essential, and can quite readily be retrived. Nature is the same today as in the time of Solomon, and possesses te same power to compose and ennoble our lives now that it did then. But the fact also remains, and is as true today as in the earlier ages, that those only shall find who really seek the truer life.

## THE RAILROAD BILL.

The railroad bill of the Administration, as finally passed, should make an end to the uncertainty that has prevailed for a long time in railroad circles. It has been carefully considered by the two houses of Congress, and by the conference committee, and after the thorough sifting it should be satisfactory to all. The roads are prepared to accept the measure in good faith. It will take some time to adjust everything to the new law, but it will be done.

One of the important features of the bill is the long-and-short haul clause which provides that "Whenever a carrier by railroad shall, in competition with a water route or routes, reduce the rates on the carriage of any species of freight to or from competitive points, it shall not be permitted to increase such rates unless, after hearing by the Interstate Commerce Commission, it shall be found that such proposition rests upon conditions other than the elimination of water competition." If this provision is lived up to, a railroad cannot make low rates to kill a competitor and then raise them. The decrease is permanent, until, in the judgment of the commission, the increase is warranted.

Railroad legislation is of a great deal of importance. If legislators, through misunderstanding or prejudices, make mistakes, the consequences will be felt not only by the big capitalists who may have invested in the roads, but by the small stockholders, the vast army of employes who depend on the earnings of the roads for their well-being, and the millions whose interests are affected by the ups and downs of the lines of communication. If there is any legislative domain from which demagogues should be excluded, it is from that devoted to the railroad interests. For mistakes are fatal to the country.

We hope that with the adoption of the government railroad bill there will be a return of mutual confidence. James T. Hill, the railroad magnate, seems to be looking forward to a time of trouble. He advises railroad employes to save money for a rainy day, and he adds, significantly, that over-legislation by legislators "who don't know what they are legislating about," tends to advance the cost of living, and; "when the next depression comes, it will not last a few months, as in 1907, but would be here for some time."

No one can be longing for another time of depression, but it is certain that strife and contention have a tendency that way. It is to be hoped that the railroad bill now adopted will avert a crisis.

## GUTTA PERCHA.

That interesting and peculiar article of commerce, the well known gutta percha, is made the subject of a special report to our government by Consul-General Skinner at Hamburg.

Gutta-percha is the dried milky juice of the trees of the genus Sapotaseæ, chiefly of the species Palanquium and Payena, the habitat of which is the Malay Archipelago, more particularly Borneo, Sumatra, and Malacca. The name is derived from the Malay words "gettah" (gum) and "pertja" (crum or scrap). The annual production is estimated at 60,000 tons, of which North America, Great Britain, and continental Europe absorb one-third each. Balata is a similar substance, and jelotong is still another, both cheaper than and inferior to gutta-percha.

This valuable product, still obtained in the most primitive manner, is obtained by felling the trees of the forest—this wasteful method not yet having been appreciably replaced by the tapping of the trees without cutting them down, though a Frenchman has recently discovered a process by which gutta percha is extracted from the leaves and branches by evaporation and distillation. The product obtained in this last way is much in demand because of its purity, and it also spares the trees: the leaves, branches and bark for this purpose are gathered in the Malayan forests and shipped to Europe.

Of the peculiar properties of this substance, Mr. Skinner says:

"Raw gutta-percha, such as is handled on the commercial markets in Asia, Europe, and the United States, forms irregular, oblong loaves, weighing 6 to 8 pounds, or 20 to 25 pound blocks, being reddish brown in color on the surface, lighter inside. The substance feels greasy and has a peculiar odor. At ordinary temperature gutta-percha is tough and viscid, but can be cut easily. It is slightly elastic but only in one direction, rending when stretched in opposite direction. If heated, particularly when dipped in warm water, gutta-percha turns soft at 48 deg. C.; at a temperature of 55 to 60 deg. C. it attains a very high degree of flexibility, and may be pressed into all possible forms or rolled into the thinnest foils. At the temperature of boiling water the substance melts into a greasy, stringy mass, which remains unchanged until the temperature is raised to 150 deg. C. When this point is reached, the product decomposes, forming an oily distillate. The softening of gutta-percha in hot water is done in order to remove impurities. The substance is insoluble in water, alcohol, ether, and fatty oils; it resists the majority of acids, including fluoric acid and alkalies. It can only be destroyed by concentrated sulphuric acid and nitric acid. It is easily soluble in bisulfid of carbon and chloroform, less easily soluble in benzine, turpentine oil, and petroleum."

The use of gutta-percha for insulation, since it is a poor conductor of electricity, is familiarly known: its extensive uses in the arts, especially as handled by dentists to make into a pink substance for the temporary filling of cavities in the teeth, form a chapter of industrial education when closely considered.

Thus, it is pressed into all possible forms, either alone or mixed with india rubber. The following articles are manufactured therefrom: Cords, tubes, pails, shoe soles, beltings, surgical instruments, knife handles, frames, etc. Gutta-percha is also used for the manufacture of dies for wood engravings, guilloche plates, etc., which are reproduced galvanoplastically. It is also largely used for paper by florists and tailors. Gutta-percha is officinal, and is used in dental practice, as mentioned above: as hoof salve for animals; and, rolled into thin foils, as gutta-percha paper, in the dressing of wounds, bruises, etc.; and, pharmaceutically, for the manufacture of traumacitin, a syrup-like, clear solution of gutta-percha in chloroform, which, applied to the skin, forms, after the evaporation of the chloroform, a transparent, flexible integument, and which, like collodion, is used externally for skin diseases, erosions, scalds, and chilblains. Gutta-percha is, however, chiefly used for insulating electric conducts; for submarine cables it is the only useful insulating material. Of late several surrogates, or substitutes, have been utilized for gutta-percha, chiefly in consequence of its high price, among which balata plays an important role. The latter is a product similar to gutta-percha, and is obtained from the milky juice of the bully tree (sapota) of northern South America.

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Few have purses as long as their appetites.

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Governor Gillett's militia spear knows no brother.

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In its last stages the railroad bill was railroaded through.

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If Lake Como has any dead it doesn't seem inclined to give them up.

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The indicted cotton pool manipulators will find trouble in securing bale.

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Some one will yet be asking the state chemist to test the milk of human kindness.

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A great deal of baker's bread, eaten in secret or elsewhere, is not very sweet.

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Tomorrow is the longest day of the year, just the day for getting up to see the sun rise.

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Sheriff Sharp has decided to rid the county of prize-fighters. Good riddance to bad rubbish.

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The "Progressive" party has been organized in Denver. Denver is nothing if not progressive.

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Both Mr. Jeffries and Mr. Johnson will continue to sharpen and maintain their fighting edge.

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Why not limit pedestrians to certain hours on the streets as hours for watering are limited?

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Frank Gould has decided to become a citizen of France. He may have been prompted to this by the example of his two French brothers-in-law.

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Christopher Columbus set foot on American soil October 12, 1492 (O. S.) Theodore Roosevelt set foot on American soil at 10:55 o'clock, a.m. June 18, 1910.

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If the farmers are not making hay while the sun shines it is their own fault, for there is a superabundance of sunshine.

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The Colonel's remark in his reply to Mayor Gaynor's address of welcome—glad to be back among the people he loves—sounds a little bit like a refrain from the tomb under the dome of the Invalides.

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New York fireworks dealers have devised a noiseless and harmless firecracker. It will be welcomed by all who favor a "safe and sane Fourth," but it will be much like "Hamlet" with the melancholy Dane left out.

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James J. Hill has warned the members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineermen to go slow and lay aside something for "a rainy day." Good advice generally but inapplicable in Utah, where rainy days are the thing needed.

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At the discussion of the new traffic ordinance before the City Council, one of the speakers was of opinion that "pedestrians should be made to understand that the streets were for the use of all classes of vehicles as well as persons." Certainly. And automobilists should be made to understand that the streets are for the use of all classes of vehicles and persons as well as for automobiles. Also that the pedestrians saw the streets first.

## KISSING IS ANCIENT.

Kansas City Star.

Brantome's memoirs contribute a pleasing anecdote concerning kissing customs of the sixteenth century. The Cardinal of Lorraine went to pay his respects to the Duchess of Savoy, and it is recorded as typical of her haughtiness that she held out her hand for him to kiss. The cardinal, furious at the affront, seized her by the head and administered two or three kisses, exclaiming: "I kiss the queen, my mistress, who is the greatest queen in the world, and I am not to kiss you, who are only a dirty little duchess (une petite duchesse crotte!)"

## IT'S THE MAN THAT COUNTS.

New York Press.

Is not Mayor Gaynor mistaken in attributing the triumph of Glenn Curtiss as an aviator to his rural upbringing, the bucolic environment of Hammondsport, N. Y., and the supposedly plain living of a little village? New York, with its 5,000,000 people, has not yet produced an aviator, the mayor says. Has London with its 8,000,000? Because a man who was born in Hammondsport startles the world by some great achievement, is Hammondsport to get the credit of inspiring freak achievements? The Mayor is mistaken. There is, to be sure, still such a creature as a city boy, born in a crowded thoroughfare, knowing nothing all his boyhood through but the noisy, rushing city life, of which he is an insignificant part. Also there is the country boy, of slow apprehension, no knowledge of the outside world, no ambition, a plodder and a whittler. Both are unfortunates. The goal of the bright country boy is the great city with its educational facilities, its golden opportunities, its inspirations. The goal of the bright city boy is the whole world. Why do we go on assuming that city boys know nothing of the country, country boys nothing of the city? Curtiss would have flown from Albany to Governor's Island if he had been born in the old Ninth ward. It is the man that counts, not the place of his birth. A country boy's temptations to folly, wickedness, sloth, are as hard to resist as the city boy's, but the vitalizing influences of great cities quickened his genius.

## JUST FOR FUN

"You say that she considers him too stingy to make any girl a good husband?" "Yes, the only thing he has taken her to see this season is the comet."—Houston Post.

### Cherchez La Femme.

When you see a bashful lover
Blushing crimson in the face
Every time he takes his watch out,
"There's a woman in the case."
—Harvard Lampoon.

### The Mystery Solved.

Houston—How do you supose the Egyptians managed to get the pyramids where they are?

Mulberry—Oh, their congressmen probably franked them.—Puck.

### Definition.

Vera (8 years old)—What does transatlantic mean, mother?

Mother—Across the Atlantic, of course; but you musn't bother me.

Vera—Does "trans" 'always mean across?

Mother—I suppose it does. Now, if you don't stop bothering me with your questions I shall send you right to bed.

Vera (after a few minutes' silence)—Then does transparent mean a cross parent?—Ideas.

### Seeking the Gare.

"That man is always anxious to get into the spotlight," said the observant citizen.

"Yes," replied Senator Sorghum, "but he doesn't discriminate. One of these days he's going to stand in front of a locomotive headlight and not realize his mistake till he is run over."—Washington Star.

### Explained.

"What're ye comin' home with your milk pail empty for?" demanded the farmer. "Didn't th' old cow give anything?"

"Yep," replied his chore-boy; "nine quarts and one kick."—Metropolitan Magazine.

### How He Did It.

A lawyer once asked a man who had at various times sat on several juries: "Who influenced you most—the lawyers, the witnesses or the Judge?" He expected to get some useful and interesting information from so experienced a juryman. This was the man's reply:

"I'll tell yer, sir, 'ow I makes up my mind. I'm a plain man, and a reasonin' man, and I ain't influenced by anything the lawyers say; No,nor by what the Judge says. I just looks at the man in the docks and I says: 'If he ain't done nothing why's he here? And I brings 'em all in guilty."—Short Stories.

## Pity the Boy With a Society Mother

"Boys Needed" was the subject of the sermon last night of the Rev. Dr. Christian F. Reisner at the Grace Methodist church, in West One Hundred and Fourth street.

"Grant became a general," he said, "as the result of overhearing a conversation about West Point while at a neighbor's borrowing butter for his mother; Hume, a sceptic as the result of committing a doubt-sowing poem while a lad; West said, 'A kiss from my mother made me a painter;' Gounod at 13 was kept in school by the manual labor of his mother. She determined that he should not be a musician. He sensed his future and on demand wrote music for words in two hours and without an instrument sang them to prove his power.

"Mayor Gaynor may not have missed it in promising a lad the position of street commissioner when he grew up. Lincoln's fellow rail-splitters would have laughed at the prediction of his being president. Who can tell the possibility of the boys we pass on the streets. Tomorrow they will be men. What sort will they be? When 'Joe' Folk was elected governor of Missouri he quit smoking, with the explanation that he did not want any boy to see anything in him that might work harm in imitating. He recognized that public place made him conspicuous. Roosevelt is concerned about 'race suicide.' It is a shame to see dogs taking the place of children. But we ought also to be mightily concerned about the kind of attention the boys are getting. The world will need the boys.

"Pity the boy who has a 'society' mother. The Earl of Shaftesbury said that he thus suffered, and that a servant woman saved him. Shame on the man who is too busy making money or playing golf to be a chum and adviser to his boy. Boys like attention. They are bashful. Big hands bother them. Blushing cheeks embarrass them. But they always like to be loved. They melt under it. They rally to decency under its plea, and no one can direct it so well as a father.

"Boys do not mean to be bad. They do not know any better. Animal spirits must get out. It has a small chance in the city. They are rowdies on the street cars. But if a few fathers would play with their boys, tomorrow's men would be better."—New York Herald.